Department of Health and Human Services National Institutes of Health National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the world-renowned National Institutes of Health (NIH), conducts and supports basic and applied research to better understand, treat, and ultimately prevent infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases. NIAID's Vaccine Research Center (VRC) has the following scientific opportunity available:

Staff Scientist – Senior Cell Culture Scientist

The cell culture scientist will lead the activities of up to five cell culture personnel, consisting of research associates and postdoctoral fellows in the cell culture group. Activities include development of virus vaccines, recombinant proteins, and virus-like particles (VLPs) that may be used as clinical vaccine candidates.

The candidate will lead a team in the Vaccine Production Program Laboratory (VPPL) supporting research and development efforts by working on cell culture process design, optimization, and scale-up studies to produce virus vaccines, recombinant viral protein antigens, and VLPs from either suspension or adherent cell lines. The candidate will perform studies using tissue culture flasks, shake flasks, cell factories, disposable bioreactors, or small-scale stirred tank bioreactors of 2 to 12 L working volume and will also lead and coordinate the non-good manufacturing practices (GMP) production of upstream harvest materials for supply to the purification group.

Requirements:

Ph.D. in biochemical or chemical engineering or related field, with a minimum of seven years' of cell culture laboratory experience in either therapeutic protein or vaccine development, is required. Previous process development experience working with HEK293, CHO, and/or Vero cells for clinical or commercial products is required.

The position requires experience with mammalian cell culture for both anchorage-dependent and suspension cell lines, experience with production of a wide variety of proteins by multiple transient transfection technologies, and experience with design-of-experiment (DOE) approaches and statistical analysis of data using the appropriate software and previous experience managing technical staff.

Experience with virus vectors such as adenoviruses is highly desirable, as is experience with multiple transient transfection technologies for the generation of stable cell lines and/or for the production of a wide variety of proteins for discovery research and/or current GMP.

Good oral and written communication skills; familiarity with computer software, including word processing and data evaluation; and knowledge and use of statistics and DOE are required. Experience in writing and reviewing batch production records, standard operating procedures, and other process-related documents is beneficial.

Interested candidates may contact Dr. Richard Schwartz, chief of the Vaccine Production Program Laboratory, at 301-594-8485 or schwartzri@mail.nih.gov for additional information about the position.

To apply, submit a curriculum vitae, a bibliography, names of three references, a statement of clinical research interests, and reprints of up to three selected publications to National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Dale and Betty Bumpers Vaccine Research Center, Office of the Chief, Attn: Dr. Richard Schwartz, Building 40, Room 5502, Convent Drive, Bethesda, MD, 20892-3015.

For further information about NIAID and other available career opportunities, please visit us on the Web at www.niaid.nih.gov/careers/sscc.

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